

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

Please substitute the appended abstract for the abstract as originally filed.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A memory card comprising:
nonvolatile memory; and
a control circuit,
wherein a memory array of said nonvolatile memory has an erase table in which a free-space information flag is associated with each physical address of a memory area,
wherein said free-space information flag has one of a first status and a second status,
wherein said first status is indicating that the corresponding memory area is permitted to be erased and a second status indicating that the corresponding memory area is inhibited to be erased, and

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A nonvolatile memory has an erase table in which a free-space information flag is associated with each physical address of a memory area and an address translation table in which a physical address of a memory area is associated with each logical address. The free-space information flag indicates whether a corresponding memory area is permitted to be erased. A control circuit determines a memory area to which rewrite data is to be written by referring to the free-space information flag, reflects the physical address and the logical address of the memory area to which the data is written into the address translation table, and updates the free-space information flag. The memory area to which rewrite data is to be written is determined by referring to the free-space information flag, and rewriting is not performed in the same memory area.